implementing a programme to develop certain railway stations/junctions as model stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years, location-wise;

(c) the names of the railway stations proposed to be developed during 1997-98, particularly in Orissa;

(d) whether the Jaipur-Keonjhar Station/Junction was earlier selected for development as a model station; and

(e) if so, the details of progress made and the targeted date of completion thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) There is no such scheme in vogue at present.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Purchasing of Accident Relief Crane

4074. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that irregularities are committed in regard to purchasing of Gottwald Accident Relief Cranes from Germany;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Difficulties Being Faced by Passengers in Reserved Compartments

4075. SHRI MURLIDHAR JENA :
DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that unauthorised passengers cause a lot of troubles to the bonafide ticket holders of sleeper class, particularly to those passengers who travel with their family and children;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government have framed some rules to punish unauthorised passengers travelling in reserved compartments;

(d) if so, the nature of such punishment;

(e) the number of unauthorised passengers prosecuted during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(f) whether the Government propose to implement these rule expeditiously;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps contemplated by the Government to give relief to passengers particularly of the long distance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Cases of occupation of reserved coaches by daily passengers and other unauthorised passengers causing a lot of troubles to the bonafide ticket holders of sleeper class, have come to the notice during surprise inspections, through complaints and Press media.

(c) and (d) Under Section 155 of the Railways Act, 1989, if any passenger enters a compartment where no berth or seat has been reserved for him and refuse to vacate the compartment, he can be removed and shall also be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 500/-.

(e) The details of persons apprehended under Section 155 of the Railways Act are not separately maintained. However, total number of persons prosecuted under different Sections of the Railways Act was 1,70,601 during 1995-96 and 1,42,809 during 1996-97 (upto January'97).

(f) to (h) Surprise checks are organised frequently by commercial and vigilance departments in close concert with RPF and GRP to apprehend persons travelling without proper authority. Action is taken against such people under provisions of Railways Act. Ticket checking activities are intensified in trains and sections which are found to be vulnerable.

Complaints of Staff of C-DOT

4076. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about some staff of C-DOT;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?